

30 JUL 1979

0001 SALT

INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION: Procurement of an intelligence collection system to help soften the blow of losing a station in Iran got underway at about the time that Director of Central Intelligence Stansfield Turner was telling a congressional committee in closed session that it would be 1984 before the full capability could be regained. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, (talking to reporters on April 18, didn't deny that estimate, but stressed that the U.S. would be able to "verify adequately" Soviet compliance with the SALT II treaty in "about a year." Ten days before, defense research and engineering chief Dr. William J. Perry told a Hill committee in executive session that, "We reviewed a problem just a few weeks ago, where we were looking for a new intelligence collection system to mitigate the effects of losing our system in Iran. Within two weeks of the time we had decided what we wanted to do, we had the procurement of that system underway...That was a multi-million dollar system..."